

Amendments to the Claims

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-15 (canceled).

Claim 16 (new): A method of processing a noise-tainted speech signal for subsequent speech recognition, with the speech signal representing at least one speech command, the method which comprises:

- a) acquiring the noise-affected speech signal;
- b) subjecting the noise-affected speech signal to noise reduction for generating a noise-reduced speech signal; and
- c) normalizing the noise-reduced speech signal with a normalization factor to a required signal level for generating a noise-reduced, normalized speech signal.

Claim 17 (new): The method according to claim 16, which comprises defining a value of the normalization factor in dependence on a speech activity.

Claim 18 (new): The method according to claim 17, which comprises determining the speech activity on a basis of the noise-reduced speech signal.

Claim 19 (new): The method according to claim 16, which further comprises:

d) describing the noise-reduced, normalized speech command by one or more feature vectors.

Claim 20 (new): The method according to claim 19, which comprises generating the one or more feature vectors to describe the noise-reduced, normalized speech command.

Claim 21 (new): The method according to claim 16, which further comprises:

e) transmitting a signal describing the feature vector or the feature vectors.

Claim 22 (new): The method according to claim 16, which further comprises:

f) performing speech recognition based on the noise-reduced, normalized speech command.

Claim 23 (new): The method according to claim 22, which comprises acquiring the speech signal in step a) and performing the speech recognition in step f) at respectively separate locations.

Claim 24 (new): The method according to claim 16, which comprises executing preprocessing and a feature compression of feature vectors describing a speech signal.

Claim 25 (new): The method according to claim 24, which comprises executing the preprocessing and the feature compression at mutually different locations.

Claim 26 (new): The method according to claim 24, which comprises executing the preprocessing and the feature compression at a common location.

Claim 27 (new): The method of training a speech command in a noise-tainted speech signal, the method which comprises the following steps:

- a') acquiring the noise-tainted speech signal;
- b') subjecting the speech signal to noise reduction for generating a noise-reduced speech signal; and
- c') normalizing the noise-reduced speech signal by way of a normalization factor to a required signal level for generating a noise-reduced, normalized speech signal.

Claim 28 (new): The method according to claim 27, which comprises training the speech command to create an acoustic model.

Claim 29 (new): The method according to claim 28, which comprises creating a Hidden Markov Model.

Claim 30 (new): An electrical device, comprising a central processing unit configured to execute the method according to claim 16, and a microphone connected to said central processing unit.

Claim 31 (new): The electrical device according to claim 30, wherein said central processing unit is programmed to execute steps a), b), and c).

Claim 32 (new): The electrical device according to claim 30, which further comprises a device for creating feature vectors for describing a speech signal.

Claim 33 (new): A communication device, comprising a transmitting and receiving apparatus and an electrical device according to claim 30.

Claim 34 (new): The communication device according to claim 33 configured as a mobile station.

Claim 35 (new): A communication system, comprising: an electrical device according to claim 30 configured as a mobile station, and a communication network configured for execution of speech recognition.